

California Correctional
Peace Officers
Association

CCPOA

REPRESENTING
CDC, CYA PEACE OFFICERS
THE TOUGHEST
BEAT IN THE STATE



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February 25, 2008

SENT VIA FAX TO:
(202) 228-3954, (202) 224-9516

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United State Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Opposition to the Federal Judicial Nomination of Gustavus A. Puryear IV

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The 32,000 men and women of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association are **strongly opposed** to the nomination of Mr. Gustavus Puryear as a federal judge at the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee.

Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) is the world's largest for-profit, private prison company and is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee. In California, there have been numerous problems with CCA's operations which have led to escapes, riots and systematic abuse of inmates.

CCA has consistently opposed state and federal legislation designed to insure that such publicly-traded companies improve the manner in which they run their facilities and have opposed efforts around the nation that would require its private prisons be subject to open records as are public prisons. While profiting handsomely from extravagant government contracts, CCA has blocked attempts to allow the public to see their tax dollars at work.

As CCA's General Counsel, Mr. Puryear has repeatedly defended the company's flawed operations and has taken an active role in refusing to disclose necessary information about the company from the public, including requests from governmental agencies that contract with the company.

Moreover, Mr. Puryear put the company's quality assurance division under CCA's legal department so any quality assurance audits would not be subject to public records laws due to attorney/client privilege. While Mr. Puryear may have "just been doing his job" as CCA's chief lawyer, this certainly is not behavior worthy of a federal judicial candidate.

Mr. Puryear would have a serious conflict of interest in hearing any cases involving CCA and we believe that his bias would adversely impact his decision-making ability as it would relate to prison-related litigation cases over which he would preside.

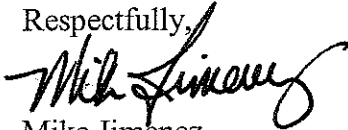
Mr. Puryear has become a multi-millionaire profiting from the sales of corporate stock options paid for via government contracts. As a judiciary candidate with sparse litigation experience, Mr. Puryear appears to be better suited as a civil practitioner where he can continue his private prison advocacy without having to feign a neutral or unbiased veneer.

For these reasons, CCPOA and the 32,000 men and women it represents strongly oppose the federal court nomination of Mr. Puryear and respectfully request your opposition to this candidate as well.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have concerning our opposition.

We can be reached at (916) 372-6060.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Jimenez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Jimenez
State President
California Correctional Peace Officers Association